

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the subject application in light of the claim changes above and the remarks that follow.

By this Amendment, Applicant has cancelled claims 1-23 and added new claims 24-29. Claims 24-29 recite subject matter similar to that recited in cancelled claims 1-23. Additional support for the subject matter may be found in FIG. 3. Claims 24-29 are now pending.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-13 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph for allegedly reciting subject matter not sufficiently described in the specification; and rejected claims 1-23 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly not being patentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,530,875 to *Wach* in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,807,595 to *Khan et al.* ("*Khan*"). These rejections are moot due to the cancellation of claims 1-23.

Claim 24 recites subject matter similar to that previously recited in claim 1. To the extent the rejection of claim 1 applies to claim 24, Applicant submits that the applied references cannot support a rejection of claim 24 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) because *Wach* and *Khan* do not disclose or suggest, at least, "N control bit sets corresponding to the N logical mapping subsets, respectively, said control bit sets having K control bits coupled to the second input of the K logical ANDs in the corresponding logical mapping subset."

Wach discloses a register 42 that receives signals from control logic 36 and stores the signals in locations F. However, locations F are connected to each of the OR gates 48 that output to group flag register 44. Accordingly, locations F cannot be considered to correspond to the claimed "N control bit sets corresponding to the N logical mapping subsets, respectively," as

recited in claim 24. (Emphasis added.) *Khan* also appears to be silent with regard to anything that might be considered to correspond to the above-noted feature.

Accordingly, claim 24 is allowable over the applied references. Dependent claims 25-29 are allowable at least due to their dependence from claim 24.

Conclusion

For the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully requests allowance of the pending claims.

If additional fees are required for any reason, please charge Deposit Account No. 02-4800 the necessary amount.

Respectfully submitted,

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